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**United States Patent [19]**

Iwasaki

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**[54] INFORMATION STORAGE AND INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM UTILIZING STATE-DESIGNATING MEMBER PROVIDED ON SUPPORTING CARD SURFACE WHICH PRODUCES WRITE-PERMITTING OR WRITE-INHIBITING SIGNAL**

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**[\*] Notice:** This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

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**[30] Foreign Application Priority Data**

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**[51] Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... G06F 13/12; G11B 23/03

**[52] U.S. Cl.** ..... 710/13; 710/8; 340/870.16; 361/684; 361/737; 455/41; 360/133

**[58] Field of Search** ..... 340/870.16; 361/684; 361/737; 235/492; 455/41; 360/133; 710/13, 8

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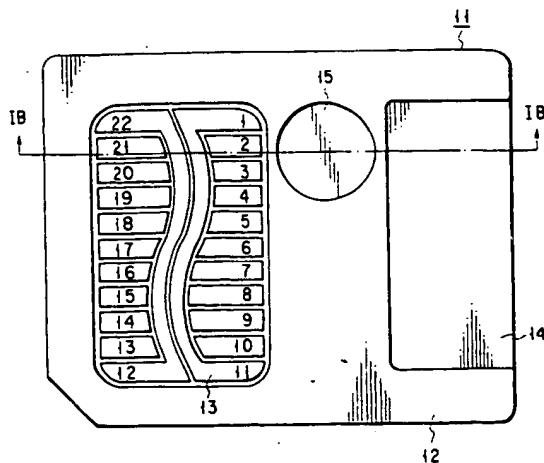
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**[57] ABSTRACT**

In a small and thin memory module for sharing data among electronic devices such as information processing apparatuses, a write prohibit state can be visually recognized. A conductive seal is attached to a predetermined position on a support member, thereby setting the memory module in the write prohibit state. The conductive seal visually indicates the write prohibit state. When the memory module is mounted in a connector section of a card-shaped holder, connector pins are electrically connected to each other via the conductive seal. Thus, a write prohibit mechanism is realized at low cost.

**36 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**



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